

Preservation of skeletal microstructure in fossil Scleractinia

Elzbieta Morycowa *Acta Palaeontologica Polonica* 25 (3-4), 1980: 321-326

This paper presents the results of investigations on the microstructure and chemical composition of the skeletons of fossll hermatypic scleractinian corals (Lower Aptian). In the specimens examined, two modes of preservation of skeletal microstructure have been observed: one - in which aragonite is preserved, and the other in which it is replaced by silica.

Key words: Scleractinia, Lower Cretaceous, aragonitic skeleton, silification.

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